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SECRET
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Summary

ROK units in central and eastern Korea met increasing resistance, but succeeded in entering the important east coast port city of Wonsan and in capturing the communications city of Chorwon in central Korea. US units attacking north of Seoul encountered the heaviest enemy resistance since the fall of that city. UN air forces provided close support to ground units as UN naval forces continued patrols.

## Ground

The 23rd Regiment of the ROK 3rd Division is reported to have secured half of the city of Wonsan and an airfield on a peninsula east of Wonsan. One thousand enemy troops and large amounts of enemy material were captured. The ROK Capital Division, moving northward to assist the ROK 3rd Division in the capture of Wonsan, encountered light resistance. Other ROK elements advancing north into central Korea made rapid progress and succeeded in capturing the city of Chorwon, but a regiment of the ROK 8th Division met stubborn enemy resistance in the town of Yongchon, While the 7th Cavalry Regiment of the US 1st Cavalry Division secured a bridgehead across the Yesong river and captured a railroad bridge intact. the 8th Cavalry Regiment encountered the stiffest enemy resistance since the fall of Seoul. The US 24th Division and the ROK 1st Division contimued their preparations to follow up the northward attack being spearheaded by the US 1st Cavalry Division. The US II Corps continued to secure the rear areas. Guerrilla activity is reported on the increase in the Wonju area in central Korea below the 30th Parallel.

## Navy

While UN units continued patrol activities around the Korean coast, an observation helicopter on the east coast reported extensive enemy minefields in the waters off Wonsan harbor.

## Air

UN air forces provided close support to ground elements of ROK and US units in central and western Korea. Fighter-bombers and B-29's interdicted enemy movements and attacked rear area line of communication targets in northwestern and northeastern Korea.

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## II. General Situation

US Ambassador Muccio reports from Seoul that the Republic of Korea apparently intends to attempt a rapid economic unification of areas north of the 38th Parallel occupied by UN forces. The most immediate problem is the type of currency to be used by ROK troops in North Korea. The US Mission recommends support of President Rhee's proposal that Bank of Korea notes recently printed in Japan be announced as legal tender in ROK occupied areas in North Korea with no announcement at this time being made on status of North Korean currency. The Mission also feels that it will be desirable to establish uniformity of laws and procedures as rapidly as possible in fields such as taxation and rice collection and distribution.

Seventeen of the forty Republican Assemblymen who remained in Seoul during the Communist occupation sat with approximately 100 Assemblymen who returned from Pusan in the first meeting of the Assembly in Seoul since the liberation. Another 23 "stay behind" Assemblymen are still missing and are presumed either to have been killed or to have gone north with the Peoples Army. Observers state that the Assemblymen who returned from Pusan were very suspicious of the 17 survivors of the Communist occupation in Seoul.

A Pyongyang Radio broadcast states that there is no longer any differentiation between the "home front" and the front lines in Korea. The implication of the broadcast is that all North Korean people must fight on the spot to defend their villages, towns, factories, and farms against the invading "aggressor's troops."

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